

Daily Herald Photos/Jason Olson

The Cedar Fort Post Office is an integral part of this small community in northern Utah County. Postal officials are now in the process of selecting land for a larger post office, which could be in operation by next year.

## Post office gets town's stamp of approval

By TOM McHOES  
The Daily Herald

**CEDAR FORT** — If you want to get a good feel for what the community here is like, don't call your travel agent. Just go to the local post office.

If there is anyone who knows about the community, it is Vonda Cook, who has worked here for the past 15 years. For the past four of those years, she has served as the officer in charge.

Because every resident has to go to the tiny building to pick up the mail — it is not delivered residentially here — Cook sees every one of them on a regular basis.

Thus, the post office serves as a regular part of the lives of the approximately 400 people here. Without it, they would have to travel 15 miles to Lehi to pick up their mail.

The building, across from the town's cemetery, provides an important federal service for the people here, Cook says. And maybe an important social service, as well.

But until about a month ago, a potential disruption of that service threatened many residents' peace of mind.

Because of a U.S. postal review of operations, the post office was threatened with a change of service status that would have contracted the office to a private owner or consolida-



A customer at the Cedar Fort Post Office looks over a piece of mail Thursday. Cedar Fort residents were pleased to learn recently that their postal services will be expanding.

tion with a nearby post office.

But nearby in this case means a 15-mile trip to get the mail.

Had it been contracted, residents would have had all the regular services with the exception

of metered mail — a service they would have had to travel to Lehi to get.

But the contract would only have lasted two to four years, and that would have left things unset-

tled from contract to contract.

After the termination of each contract, if the owner didn't want to extend it, the contract would

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over →



...said from her parents home in Nassau Bay, Texas.

Overmyer left behind a wife, Katherine, and three children. But he died doing what he loved, Carolyn said.

"Being a test pilot, he knows the risks. But that was the love of his life," she said.

Overmyer was testing the small-engine VK30 prototype plane for the manufacturer, Cirrus Design Corporation, when it went down near Duluth International Airport at 12:30 p.m.

Cirrus, which has a base in Duluth, and hired him last year as



Col. Robert Overmyer

a test pilot.

The crash site was sealed off while Federal Aviation Administration tried to recover the plane's flight recorder and begin their investigation.

Chris Maddy, a spokesman for Cirrus Design, praised Overmyer's skills in an interview with KDAL Radio in Duluth.

...as an astronaut for the Air Force Manned Orbiting Laboratory Program in 1966. The program was canceled in 1969.

He was chosen as a NASA astronaut in 1969 and worked on the Skylab Program until 1971. He then was a support crew member for Apollo 17. From 1973 to 1975 he was a support crew member for the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project. In 1976, Overmyer began working with the Space Shuttle program. He was the pilot of the STS-5, the first fully operational flight of the Shuttle Transportation System, which launched Nov. 11, 1982.

December. The first was Army Sgt. Donald A. Dugan, who was killed by a land mine on Feb. 3.

The latest accident occurred at 9:30 p.m. local time (3:30 p.m. EST) near the town of Gornje Babine.

The injured soldier was evacuated to a mobile Army surgical hospital at Camp Bedrock near the town of Donja Visca, the Army said in a brief announcement from its base in Tuzla. His condition was not known.

## FBI agent killed in shootout

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — As backup agents waited nearby, an FBI agent trying to buy drugs in an undercover operation on the waterfront was fatally shot in his car Friday along with a drug dealer.

"They killed each other," FBI Director Louis J. Freeh said late Friday at the agency's Philadelphia office. Tired, with red-rimmed eyes, he stood in front of an FBI seal draped with a black ribbon.

Charles L. Reed, a 16-year FBI veteran, wore a body wire to record the meeting with the suspected drug dealer, 24-year-old Jonathan Cramer, in the parking lot of a Comfort Inn.

He was in the back seat of his gray Mercedes-Benz on the passenger side, and Cramer was in

front on the passenger side. A third person, about whom Freeh would say nothing, was in the driver's seat.

Backup agents were waiting several hundred feet away and had little chance to intervene.

The agent was negotiating over a kilogram of cocaine, unidentified sources told WPVI-TV. But Freeh also said no drugs were recovered.

"It's a sad day for the FBI in Philadelphia," said Bob Reutter, the FBI's agent in charge of the Philadelphia office.

Reed, 45, of Lansdale, was the father of three.

"This was an extraordinary, committed agent who never said no, who worked harder than anyone in this division," Freeh said.

## MAIL:

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have gone up for bid again. If no one wanted the post office after that, then consolidation would be the next probable step.

So when Cedar Fortians got the news that their post office would not only continue, but expand, they were elated.

"We were relieved because we were afraid to see it go out on contract," Cook says. "This has gone on for a while, so it's kind of weighed on everybody."

Cook says postal officials are in the process of selecting land for a larger post office site. That process is scheduled to be completed with-

in a month, and the new post office could be in operation by next year.

The new building will be 916 square feet, as opposed to the current office's 187 square feet.

At present, there are only 12 boxes available although the town's growth rate has picked up over the past couple of years, Cook says. So the new postal facility comes at a good time.

But even though the expanded room will be nice, there is still an element of attachment to the tiny white building, Cook says.

"I like working with the people," she says. "It's a place where people come, get mail and visit ... I don't know if it's a job for everybody, being in an 11-by-20 (foot) cubicle all day, but I like it."

## Weather

### Area Outlook

By The Associated Press  
UTAH

• **SALT LAKE, OGDEN AND PROVO:** Today much colder with periods of snow showers. Possible accumulations of 1-3 inches. Highs in the 40s. Tonight scattered snow showers. Lows around 30. Sunday chance of showers early, otherwise mostly cloudy. Highs near 50.

• **NORTHERN UTAH:** Winter storm warning mountains today, tonight windy with showers and thunderstorms likely. Heavy snow possible mountains. Lows mid-30s to low 40s. Today much colder with snow showers. Possibly heavy in the mountains. Highs 40s. Tonight scattered snow showers. Lows 20-30. Sunday mostly cloudy and continued cool. Chance snow showers. Highs lower 40s to lower 50s.

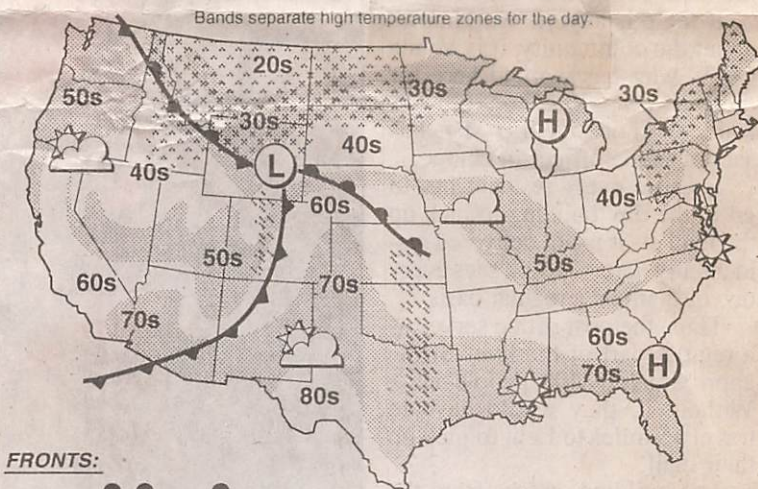
• **SOUTHERN UTAH:** Winter storm warning mountains today. Heavy snow possible mountains. Lows mid-30s to upper 40s. Today much colder with rain and snow showers in the valleys and snow in the mountains possibly heavy. Highs mid-40s to mid-50s lower 60s in Dixie. Tonight mostly cloudy.

IDAHO

• **NORTHERN IDAHO:** Today mostly cloudy and chilly with scattered snow showers. Highs in the 40s. Tonight variable cloudiness and cold with scattered snow showers. Lows 25 to 35. Sunday partly cloudy and very cool with a chance of snow showers. Highs 35 to 45.

### NATIONAL Weather

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Saturday, March 23.



FRONTS:

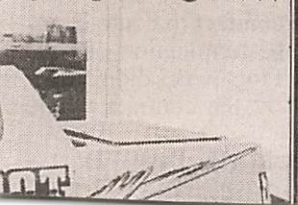
COLD WARM STATIONARY

Pressure  
H L  
HIGH LOW SHOWERS RAIN T-STORMS FLURRIES SNOW ICE SUNNY PT. CLOUDY CLOUDY

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Via Associated Press

FREE GO-CART



# OPEN HOUSE

Friday March 22 9:00 am - 7:00 pm